

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel claims 1 - 6 and 20 without prejudice.

1. (cancelled)

2. (cancelled)

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3. (cancelled)

10 4. (cancelled)

5. (cancelled)

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6. (cancelled)

7. (currently amended) A method of providing data to an application, comprising the steps of:

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providing a mailfile stored on a server, of documents having a section and fields;

receiving a request as a SOAP protocol message from an

END920030038US1

10/603,999

application running on a user workstation different from said server, for one of said documents;

retrieving said fields of said one of said documents from said  
5 mailfile;

in response to said fields, retrieving said one of said documents as a markup language document;

10 inserting at said server, a URL into said markup language document to retrieve said section of said one of said documents;

retrieving at said server, said section from said mailfile in said markup language;

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removing at said server, said URL from the retrieved document and creating an object having said section expanded in the retrieved document; and

20 marshalling said object and sending the marshalled object to said application as a SOAP protocol message.

8. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein said fields are  
25 retrieved as an XML document.

9. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein said markup

END920030038US1

10/603,999

language is HTML or XHTML.

10. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein said one of said documents has a file attachment link.

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11. (original) The method of claim 10, further comprising the steps of retrieving said attachment, removing said link, and inserting said attachment into said object.

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12. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein said one of said documents has an image tag.

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13. (original) The method of claim 12, further comprising the steps of retrieving the image of said image tag, encoding said image, and inserting the encoded image in place of said image tag in the retrieved document.

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14. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein said one of said documents has a link to other items in said document.

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15. (original) The method of claim 14, further comprising the steps of retrieving the content of said link, and inserting said content in the retrieved document at the position of said link.

END920030038US1

10/603,999

16. (currently amended) A system for providing data stored in a file to an application, comprising:

a file stored on a server, having data stored as documents

5 having sections;

a database on said server, for passing a request for one of said documents to said file and upon return converting said one of said documents into an extended markup format;

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an authentication directory having authentication records for an application;

web service software for receiving a request from an application  
15 running on a user workstation different from said server, for one of said documents, retrieving said one of said documents, and creating an extended markup object containing said document;  
and

20 web service software for inserting at said server, a URL into said markup object to retrieve one of said sections;

web service software for retrieving at said server, said one of said sections from said file;

25 web service software for recovering at said server, said URL from the retrieved one of said documents and creating an object having said one of said sections expanded in the retrieved document; and

END920030038US1

10/603,999

a protocol tool for authenticating said application using said records, marshalling said object, and sending the marshalled object in a simple object access protocol to said application.

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17. (original) The system of claim 16, wherein said software and said tool are adapted to operate without the need for a mail or calendaring client.

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18. (original) The system of claim 16, wherein said extended markup format is XML.

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19. (original) The system of claim 16, wherein said object is marshalled into said simple object access protocol according to a pre-defined set of rules.

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20. (cancelled)

END920030038US1

10/603,999